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THE

French Preliminaries.

A *New* Ballad to the *Old* Tune of *Packington's Pound.*

ALL you that have Stock, and are Mad for a Peace,
Come liften a while, and I'll give your Hearts eaſe;
And let all True Churchmen Rejoice when they ſee
How Low the *French* creep to the New Min——y.
A great Poet lately was ſent into *France*
For a General Treaty to make ſome Advance;
In Return of whoſe Viſit, a Knight newly made,
And a Governing Man of the *French South-Sea* Trade,
Came with a full Power, as he ſays, from the King,
Theſe Tidings of Gladneſs for *Britain* to bring.

I.

He declares *that the King will do all that is fitting*
To acknowledge Her Majeſty Queen of Great-Britain;
For which if you ſcruple to take his bare Word,
Pray think how that Monarch us'd *William* the Third,
Whom he own'd, and diſown'd, and ſet up the Pretender,
And with him ſtill noſes our Church's Defender.
He alſo proteſts *that the Crown ſhall deſcend,*
As at preſent 'tis ſettl'd, for that very End.

II.

That *he will* bona fide, *and freely conſent,*
That whoever is able may take Care to prevent
The French *and the* Spaniards *being under One Yoke,*
Which is eaſily done when th' Alliance is broke;
For he horribly fears leſt an Exceſs of Power
The Quiet of *Europe* may chance to devour.

III.

He alſo intends *the Allies One and All,*
(For he ſcorns to except the Great or the Small,)
If they'll be but contented with what he will give 'em,
Shall find he's a Man that will never deceive 'em;
Their Trade ſhall be Safe, tho' he does not declare
To Inquiſitive Folks in what Manner, or Where.

IV.

As the King will maintain the Peace when concluded,
So for fear that the *Dutch* ſhould think they are deluded;
Of them on a ſudden he's grown very Tender,
And Conſents for their Good *that they may Surrender*
Whate'er has been taken in Flanders *this War,*
And he'll then yeild them back a very good Barr.
But as for the Title of States *High and Mighty,*
Which ſome People uſe on Purpoſe to fright ye,
The *Republick* of *Holland* does Properer ſeem,
For *Republicks* of late are in mighty Eſteem.

V.

The King conſents likewiſe, that inſtead of Spain
A Barrier ſhall for the Empire remain.

VI.

Tho' Dunkirk *was Bought by the King pretty Dear,*
And has coſt Money ſince, as may plainly appear,
His Majeſty's willing however to Swear
He'll raze all the Works at the End of the War,
If he may but a proper Equivalent have.
That is, What his Majeſty *thinks fit to Crave:*
But as England, *he's told, is now grown ſo Poor,*
That for what her King *Sold for* Some Pence *and* One Whore,
An Equivalent cannot be rais'd by that Nation,
But ſhall be referr'd to the Negotiation.

VII.

Once more by his Faith, an Oath none e'er doubted,
He ſweats *in this Peace no Prince ſhall be Outed;*
For he does not expect Charles *ſhould be ſo ſullen,*
As at laſt to exclude Bavaria *and* Cologne.
Thus you have heard the vaſt Offers the Frenchmen have made
For theſe Realms, our Allies, and Dear *South-Sea Trade.*
And *Abel* declares they're return'd very glad
Of the Civil Reception which there they have had.

So all you that have Stock, and are Mad for a Peace,
Think of what has been ſaid, and 'twill give your Hearts Eaſe;
And let all true Church-men rejoice when they ſee
How Low the *French* creep to the New Min——y.

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